

REMARKS

1. Claims 1 – 22 are pending in the application. Claims 9 and 17-22 are cancelled. Claim 23 has been added. Claims 1 – 8, 10-16, and 23 remain in the application.

2. Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's statement that claims 1-8 and 10-16 would be allowed if amendments were made to overcome the § 112 rejections and objections in the Official Action. Pursuant to a telephone conversation on January 19, 2004 between the Examiner and Applicant's representative, Applicant believes the above amendments satisfy the Examiner's requirements and overcome any §112 rejections.

3. Claims 1-7 and 10 - 16 have been amended. These amendments are fully supported by the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed. It is believed no new matter has been added by these amendments.

4. Claim 23 has been added. This amendment is fully supported by the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed. It is believed no new matter has been added by this amendment.

5. Claims 1-8 and 10-16, the specification and the drawings were objected to. The objections have been addressed and overcome by the above amendments as explained below. The amendments to the specification were previously submitted but not entered due to inconsistency in the page numbering. Therefore, a substitute specification has been submitted, and the following amendments refer to the page numbering of this substitute specification.

Page 1, the Cross Reference to Related Applications has been amended to include the PCT Application.

Page 5, last paragraph, line 3, “residual diluent” has been rewritten as “excess liquid” to be consistent with preceding recitation of item number “51” in the previous paragraph.

Page 5, last paragraph, line 3, “liquid toner” is now identified as **45** and item **50** properly refers to toner on the drum.

Page 8, first full paragraph, “actinic radiation” has been properly identified as item 65 and the reference to Figure 4b has been changed to 4a.

Page 12,, first full paragraph and fifth paragraph, the elements “glass”, “gap”, and “plate” have been identified as items 404, 410, and 400, respectively.

Page 15, end of first full paragraph, has been amended to include the reference to an optical means as item **111** . Support for this amendment can be found throughout the application, for example, in original drawings 1 and 11, claims 3 and 13, and in the specification (e.g., page 6, first paragraph.).

Page 16, first full paragraph, line 3, the “transfer position” has been identified as item **148**.

Page 16, first full paragraph, line 7, has been amended to identify the second corona unit as item **128**.

Page 16, last full paragraph, line 2, has been amended to identify the glass back plate as item **200**.

Page 19, second paragraph, line 2, “charge 312” has been corrected to refer to “charge 310”.

The Examiner stated that the changes to the figures previously submitted were accepted. These changes amended the drawings to correspond to the amended item numbers from the above amendments to the specification.

In the claims, all reference numbers have been deleted and changes have been made to clarify language and correctly establish antecedent bases for a number of elements, including:

Claim 2, lines 2-3, the corona unit is now corrected to refer to the “second corona unit means”.

Claim 10, lines, 15 and 17, the “flat receiving glass substrate” has been corrected to read “flat receiving glass plate”.

Claim 11, lines 4-6, the means has been corrected to be “a supporting means”.

Claim 12 has been amended to clarify the identification of the fluid as the “clear toner diluent”.

Claim 16, the claim has been amended to clarify the relieved structure of the glass plate. (Supported by Figure 13c).

New claim 23 includes the definition of a glass plate having a relieved structure with ribs. This is supported throughout the original specification, claims, and drawings.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests, examination of the RCE application, withdrawal of all objections and rejections, and allowance of claims 1-8, 10-16, and 23 at an early date.

5. Claims 1-8 were rejected in the Final Action under 35 USC §112. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The rejections under §112 are now moot. The rejections have been addressed and overcome by the above amendments as explained below.

Claim 1, has been amended such that “said toner particles” have antecedent basis in the amended preceding reference to a toner “having toner particles”.

Claim 2 has been amended to correctly refer to the “second corona unit means”.

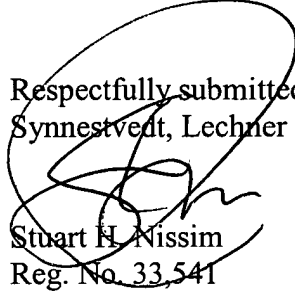
Claim 2, lines 4, 8, 10, and 12, the term “said glass plate” has been amended to refer to “said flat glass plate” as previously disclosed in claim 1.

Claim 6, “said development unit” has been amended to “said liquid development unit” and has an antecedent basis in claim 1.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests, examination of the RCE application, withdrawal of all objections and rejections, and allowance of claims 1-8, 10-16 and 23 at an early date.

6. Figures 1, 11, and 13c were previously amended to remove items not referenced in the claims or specification and to synchronize numbering of elements with the claims and specification. The Examiner accepted these amendments.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests, examination of the RCE application, withdrawal of all objections and rejections, and allowance of claims 1-8, 10-16 and 23 at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,
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